

December 12, 2023

Mr. John Kniery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review
Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Pain & Spine Institute Surgery Center

Dear Mr. Kniery:

I write this letter in support for Pain and Spine Institute Surgery Center and it's plan to establish a limited specialty surgery center in Joliet Illinois in giving patients access to pain management in a setting that is convenient and more personal than in a hospital. Chronic pain is a national epidemic. What I really want to address is not the cost to insurance, and the cost of higher deductibles but to the cost to patients' health. I have been an orthopedic nurse for thirty-seven years and have witnessed firsthand a wide range of issues from post op pain to chronic pain and the opioid crisis that is affecting the nation today. I am a chronic pain patient and because of my career I have never taken narcotics, but I have needed the surgical services, the expertise and treatment plans that have helped me with my pain reduction so I can be productive with my career. A pain center where patients can get the help, they need to heal without all the pain medication is necessary. Addiction is a full-blown epidemic. Currently, there are not adequate options in the community for pain management services. There is no doubt in my mind that this is a much-needed service in our area.

I have been under the care of Dr. Sharma for many years. His knowledge, professionalism and expertise in his field is top notch. He has helped me over the years so I can continue to help others. This surgery center would be an asset to the community. I ask that you approve the certificate of need application for the Pain and Spine institute Surgery Center to help the people like me in the community who are dealing with chronic pain to cope and make their day to day lives more manageable. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Joanne Oddo
35 Kildare Ave
Joliet Il.
815-212-9970